

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 IO-10 /083 W

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R 160817Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4294

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 0243

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LY MO MT

SUBJ: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: IMPROVEMENT IN
MOROCCAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS

1. DURING MY JANUARY 15 MEETING WITH FONMIN LARAKI (OTHER SUBJECTS REPORTED SEPTTEL NOTAL), I INQUIRED ABOUT RECENT DECISION TO RESTORE MOROCCAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS TO AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL. GOM, LARAKI STRESSED, WAS UNDER NO ILLUSIONS IN THIS REGARD, BUT HAD RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO LIBYAN OVERTURE, CONVEYED BY MALTESE PRIMIN MINTOFF DURING HIS RECENT VISIT, ON THEORY THAT THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE LOST. MOROCCAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MUCH WORSE, AND IF KING'S ATTITUDE COULD ALTER LIBYAN ATTITUDE EVEN SLIGHTLY, SO MUCH THE BETTER. FURTHER, LARAKI NOTED, MOROCCO'S LONGSTANDING POLICY HAS BEEN NOT TO BREAK RELATIONS AND POSITIVE RESPONSE TO LIBYAN INITIATIVE FALLS GENERALLY INTO THIS TRADITION.

2. COMMENT: FOREGOING CONFIRMS OUR BELIEF THAT MOROCCAN EXPECTATIONS RE RELATIONS WITH LIBYA NOT UNREALISTICALLY HIGH, AND WE WOULD NOT EXPECT ANY RADICAL IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONSHIP
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IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE. OVER COURSE PAST YEAR, LIBYANS HAVE

BEEN GRADUALLY BUILDING UP SIZE OF THEIR EMBASSY STAFF BUT ARE
STILL MAINTAINING VERY LOW PROFILE HERE.
NEUMANN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, AMBASSADORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RABAT00243
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750016-1096
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750146/aaaabojoy.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 JUN 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <09 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER: IMPROVEMENT IN MOROCCAN-LIBYAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, LY, MO, MT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006